

# The Shoulder to the Wheel.

BY CHARLES W. FOSTER.

The shoulder to the wheel!

Follow me, and I will lead you.

Children may not down and weep.

But men must stand up and fight.

In the midst of the strife.

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a candidate for re-election. They knew he would veto it, and they wanted to subject his veto to the review of the people. The case constituted a direct appeal to the people by Congress and the President; and admirably illustrates the power conferred on the people by a proper exercise of the veto.

A Presidential Veto is the people's only security against Congressional usurpation.

The people may remove a representative every second year, and a senator every sixth year; but a re-charter of the United States Bank could not have been corrected by a removal of all who had voted for it. The contract would have been consummated and irrevocable, had it not been arrested by a veto; and such are all the cases to which a veto has been applied. But the benefits which have resulted from vetoes cannot be estimated by only the few cases wherein they have been exercised. Had Monroe not vetoed the Cumberland Road Bill in 1822, or Jackson the Mayville Stock Subsidy in 1830, who sees not the extent to which such legislation would have been carried by Congress, whose organization favors such legislation—the roads which it should construct in any state, provoking every other state to procure like legislation. Nay, the representative of every congressional district would be ambitious to procure for his locality what any other representative had procured; hence, every step in such legislation would produce others in a compound progression, till legislation would degenerate into a scramble for spoils. Nor should so promiscuous and numerous a body as Congress—to say nothing of higher officials. The Galpin case was more peculiar in its exposure than its occurrence. The revival of old and rejected claims against the government is become common; and charity tries in vain to suppose that the claims are advocated disinterestedly in Congress. The veto of President Polk saved the country in his day from French claim spoliation; but his veto is more effective in showing how a President ought to act, than it will be in finding imitators. The state of limitations which every state enacts, is not destined to prevent the payment of just demands, but to provide against the evasiveness of testimony; for if a claim seems just after fifty rejections we ought to infer that the facts are forgotten which showed its injustice, and not that our predecessors were disinclined to be just.

The Veto is powerless for evil.

We often hear that a king of England would lose his head should he thwart, by veto, the British Parliament. The king, however, retains his position for life, and his veto is not susceptible of a quadrennial review by the people, nor reversible, like a President's by a two-third vote of the legislature. Besides the king vetoes to retain power, which the people are seeking through Parliament, to wrest from him, but a President vetoes to disclaim power, and patronage, that Congress are attempting to invest him with by wresting it from the people. Such has been the character of all past presidential vetoes; and that an exercise of the power evinces a victory by duty over personal ease, may be inferred from the few vetoes which have been pronounced during our sixty-two years of national existence; and inferred from nothing more clearly than from President Polk's sanction of the Oregon Territorial Bill, with the Wilnot proviso superadded, and which uncharacteristic sanction he in vain sought to justify by an apologetic explanation. The people need not, therefore, fear that the veto will be exercised excessively. Its exercise demands rather the encouragement of every patriot; especially as its most mistaken application can delay but briefly what it may improperly arrest.

The Veto performs for Legislation what Chancery performs for the Common Law.

President Fillmore's implied declaration to veto a repeal of the Fugitive Slave Law, exemplifies, in its salutary influence over fifteen States, another utility of the veto power, especially when contrasted with the uneasiness which they evinced previously, by reason of the tenets of his party that no veto was proper, except against unconstitutional legislation. For nearly fifty years the slave states have deemed the veto their surest reliance against Congressional aggression; hence the uniform desire of the South that the President should be a southerner. This, more than the victories of Gen. Taylor, caused his election; nor could Van Buren have been elected in 1837, had he not been a northern man with southern feelings. Indeed, the veto is admirably adapted to mitigate the tyranny of a legislative majority, when the tyranny is to be exercised, as with us, over states organized severally, with all the machinery of sovereignty—arsenals, munitions, revenues, a legislature, judiciary, militia, and citizens accustomed to local obedience; and when, accordingly, Congressional tyranny is liable to disrupt the Union. In England, where a veto is practically unknown, no such urgency for its exercise exists, for how numerous a sovereign may become the victims of a legislative majority, they possess no means of counter-aggression but unorganized brute riot and impotent clamor. The Court of Chancery is said to "break the teeth of the Common Law," which would compel a man to pay two thousand dollars, as a penalty, for not paying one thousand on a stipulated day. The presidential veto tempers, with equal beneficence, the tyranny of a Congressional majority, which can, by a plurality of one member, abolish slavery in the District of Columbia, enforce

the Wilnot Proviso on the people of a new territory, or outrage otherwise the feelings of fifteen States.

Unconstitutional legislation is remediable without a Veto.

The judiciary power of the United States extends "to all cases in law and equity, arising under the laws;"—and to insure impartiality in the judges, they "hold their offices during good behavior," and receive a compensation which cannot be diminished during their continuance in office. Now, as no act of Congress can effect an individual, except as he may be punished judicially for disobedience, he possesses in the judiciary as good a shield against unconstitutional legislation, as he possesses for the security of his life, liberty and property. To say, therefore, with some politicians, that the veto shall be used only to prevent unconstitutional legislation, is to assimilate the veto to the fifth wheel of a coach—which is proverbially useless.

CONCLUSION.

But the able politicians fail to explain why a President must not deem the constitutional knowledge of Congress better than his own, as well as its deliberate judgment in other matters. In short, the President's intellect is paramount in both cases for one reason only—the Constitution makes it so. He must approve or disapprove; and if, in any case, he subordinates his judgment to the will of Congress, he commits the offense of respecting Congress more than he respects the Constitution; and it becomes wounded in its most delicate and vital part by him who has been selected as its defender.

ISLANDS IN THE PACIFIC.

OCEANIA.—The Pacific Ocean is computed to contain about six hundred and eighty islands, exclusive of New Holland, New Zealand, New Caledonia, New Ireland, and the Salomons.

POLYNESIA.—This name designates that portion of the Islands of the Pacific lying nearest to America. It is chiefly composed of ten different groups, of which the Sandwich Isles is one. The present population of Polynesia is less than half a million. About eighty thousand of the inhabitants have been gathered into the Christian Church by English and American missionaries.

THE SANDWICH ISLANDS were discovered by the great British navigator, Captain Cook, in 1778, and were named after Lord Sandwich. It was at one of these islands, Owhyhee, or Hawaii, that Captain Cook lost his life. The Sandwich Islands lie in the direct route from California to India; about eighteen hundred miles from California and five thousand from China. They are eight in number, (inhabited) namely Hawaii, Maui, Kahoolawe, Lanai, Molokai, Oahu, Kauai, Nihoa—embracing an area of about six thousand square miles.

In the pronunciation of these Island names, or words, as we understand, every vowel is a distinct syllable. The sounds of the vowels are as follows: *a* as in father; *i* like *e* in *city*; *e* like *ee* in *seen*; *o* like *oo* in *moon*. We have not been able to ascertain whether the *oo* is intended to represent the same sound, like our double *o*, or is to be pronounced as two syllables, each with the proper *o* sound; we presume the latter.

THE CLIMATE of the Sandwich Isles is in every way salubrious. The temperature is equable. The North East trade winds fan them perpetually on the windward side, and there is a regularly alternating land and sea breeze on the leeward side. The heat is nowhere so great as at New Orleans, or often in this climate. There is always the purest ocean air, and a variety of climate can be commanded by a change of situation, not to be had elsewhere in the world within the same area. Changes can readily be made from the windward to the leeward side, and from the seashore to the mountains, and *vice versa*, with great facility and benefit. The difference of temperature between noon and night is seldom more than 10 degrees. The greatest heat noted at Honolulu in twelve years was 90 degrees; greatest cold, 53; yearly mean 75 degrees. Sudden weather changes are unknown. Storms are of short continuance. The Sandwich Islands may be regarded as one of the most healthy regions of the globe. Yet with all this the native race is melting away.

WRECK INHABITED.—A few years ago a Japanese Junk came on shore at Waiata, Oahu. When the natives saw the few survivors—men looking such like themselves—who had been drifted out of their course for nearly a year, and were five thousand miles from their homes, their first inference was "Now we know where our fathers came from." Many well authenticated facts like this point to the way in which all the islands of the Pacific may have been peopled, and indicate also the more highly civilized aborigines of South America and Mexico. There is no necessity to trace them down from Behring's Straits through North America.

THE PHYSICAL ASPECT of the Hawaiians, as a race is pleasing. Their complexion is clear olive brown, like that of the Spanish gipsy. They call themselves KAUAI, the red skin, in contrast with the KEOKEO race or white skin. Their features would cause them to be classed with the Malay race of the human family. Their lips are thick, nostrils large, but the nose not flat, nor the hair woolly, but uniformly straight and black. They have high cheek bones, like the North American Indian, and the erect European forehead.

Is Pansoo the Hawaiians are well formed, large limbed, and somewhat taller than the average of Americans. The race of high chiefs were large, athletic, and finely proportioned. The

chief women are enormously big and unwieldy.

CAPTAIN COOK.—When Captain Cook discovered Hawaii, the sound of which he caught Owhyhee—not very different, the accent being placed on the second syllable of Ha-wa-i-i—the natives called the ship *hauke moku*, the foreign island and regarded Captain Cook as their returned god, Lono. The great navigator was not as careful to eschew divine honors as the Apostles at Lystra. He wrongly allowed them to worship him; and they were restrained from injuring him when they thought themselves wronged, by the belief that he was a god, till one day in the bay of Kealahou, in a moment of rashness and self-confidence, he struck one of the chiefs with his sword. The powerful native instinctively grasped him, and held him in his arms, whereupon Captain Cook uttered a cry of distress. The dread charm of his divinity was at once broken by that cry, and the chiefs and people fell upon him in anger, and instantly slew him, exclaiming, "He groans—he is not a god." It is to be regretted that Captain Cook did not direct the minds of the rude natives to the God that made heaven and earth, instead of receiving divine homage himself. It is possible, however, that he did not know the extent to which they had been and served him as a god. The Christian Hawaiians at the present day think that the hand of God was in his death, and apply to it that passage of God's word, where it is said of Herod, when he received acclamation as a god, that he gave not God the glory, and was eaten up of worms.

The death of Captain Cook, it will be remembered, took place in full view of his ship. But assistance could not reach him in time to save his life. Among our earliest juvenile reading, we remember with what interest we perused the Voyages of Captain Cook, and how we mourned for the untimely death of him, whom at that day, we regarded with admiration little less than that of the natives of Owhyhee.

Farther Mexican Items.

In our edition of last evening we mentioned the arrival of the bark Chas. S. Olden, Capt. Douglass, with dates from Vera Cruz and the city of Mexico several days later. On perusing our files, we find several items of news worth translating.

The Mexican Congress was to adjourn on the 15th April, but so much unfinished business remained, that it was considered extremely probable an extra session would be agreed to by both houses. A motion has been made to that effect in the lower house.

Senor Soto has presented a law in the Senate on the liberty of cultivating, manufacturing and selling tobacco in the Republic. The following are the main features of his project:—The estate or monopoly of tobacco will cease on the 1st of September, 1852; the tobacco in store, machinery, utensils, buildings, &c., belonging to the company having the monopoly of tobacco, will be sold as directed in the sale of all national effects—one half of the sum resulting to be applied to paying off the interest debt, and the other half to the wants of Government. The Senate to recommend to the lower house to place on tobacco an annual tax of not less than \$500,000, without charging anything on the exportation of the article. The *Trait d'Union*, and other papers, speak warmly in favor of the project.

The municipal council of the city of Mexico, has adopted a resolution, asking the General Government to suppress bull fights within the city and State. This is certainly one step toward civilization. A census of the city and state of Mexico is now being taken. All strangers and foreigners, their nation, whether married or not, the country of their wives, their *moralite*, &c., are among the questions addressed by the census takers. The editor of the *Trait d'Union*, the French paper, wishes to know what person in Mexico could speak with any certainty of his *moralite*! The foreigners are by far the most respectable class in the city of Mexico.

We are indebted to Mr. Witherill, a gentleman who came across the country from Acapulco to Vera Cruz, for the following interesting political intelligence, which we do not see in our papers:

Several large and influential parties in Mexico are plotting for a change in the Government. One party wishes to join Mexico once more to Spain, and counts upon the Spanish troops and authorities in Cuba for assistance. Another party—that of the manufacturing interest—is trying quietly and slowly to get up a feeling in favor of Santa Anna to power. There is still another party, and not a feeble one, in favor of immediate annexation to the United States.

The accounts of Indian murders in the Northern States of the Republic are as fearful as ever. If matters go on as at present, many years would not elapse before the savages would wrest back every foot of land they possessed before the conquest.—N. O. Picayune.

Suspicious.

A servant girl whispered to neighbor Abagail, one night, "Now mind, I don't say as how master drinks, but between you and I, the demijohn in the dark closet don't keep full all the time."

"What can a man do," asked a green "an yesterday," "when the sheriff is coming on to him with a writ in his hand?" "Apply the remedy," said another one "grully," "Remedy! what kind of a remedy?" "Hedding remedy, you goose—run like a quarter-horse."

# GLEANINGS.

What is crime? A wretched vagabond, travelling from place to place in a fruitless endeavor to escape from justice, who is constantly engaged in pursuit. A foe to virtue and happiness, though at times the companion of poor innocence, which is too often made to suffer for the guilty.

What is thought? A fountain from which flows all good and evil intentions, a mental fluid, electrical in force and rapidity of its movements, silently flowing unseen within its own secret avenue; yet it is the controlling power of all animated matter, and the chief mainspring of all our actions.

What is happiness? A butterfly that roves from flower to flower, in the vast garden of existence, and which is eagerly pursued by the multitude in vain hope of obtaining the prize; yet it continually eludes their grasp.

What is fortune? A sparkling beverage who often rejects those who are most anxious to solicit her favors, whilst others, more unworthy, are the recipients of her bounties without their solicitation.

What is fashion? A beautiful envelope for mortality, presenting a glittering and polished exterior, the appearance of which gives no certain indication of the real value of what is contained therein.

What is wit? A sparkling beverage that is highly exhilarating and agreeable, when partaken at the expense of others; but when used at our own cost, it becomes bitter and unpleasant.

What is knowledge? A key that unravels all mysteries; which unlocks the entrance and discovers new, unseen and untrodden paths in the hitherto unexplored field of science and literature.

What is contentment? The philosophy of life, and principal ingredient in the cup of happiness; a commodity that is undervalued in consequence of the very low price it can be obtained for.

What is justice? A pair of scales in which the actions of mankind are often weighed; the true weights being bought up by power and wealth, whilst others are substituted.

What is ambition? A fierce unconquerable steed that bears his rider on the high road of prebend; but it oftentimes throws him such a fall that he rarely ever recovers.

What is idleness? A public mint, where various kinds of mischief is coined and extensively circulated among the most despicable of the human race.

What is fear? A frightful substance to the really guilty, but a vain and harmless shadow to the conscientious, honest and upright.

What is joy? The honey of existence really beneficial and agreeable when partaken of in moderation, but highly injurious when used to excess.

The Everglades.

Gov. Brown has recently made a tour through Southern Florida. He took occasion to examine with some attention the Everglades, with reference to their drainage. His opinion is that thorough drainage is impracticable. If it could be effected, the deposits laid bare would be found to be purely vegetable decomposition, light enough, when dry, to be blown away and quite as combustible as peat. The Everglades are intersected with numerous channels and basins of a depth below the level of the ocean, with limestone or sand bottom. The waters might be lowered by deepening the outlets to the sea, and thus reclaiming the land on the margins and some of the islands, but nothing more can be done. The waters of the Everglades, says the Tallahassee Sentinel, "teem with fish of many varieties, and in such numbers that one must see to believe. With a simple spear the fisherman may load his boat in a few moments. Wild fowl is there in such enormous flocks, as almost to darken the sun; and game is abundant on the islands. Add to these, the indigenous growth of Coontie or Arrow root, of which the Indian makes his bread, and the attachment of the savage to such a spot is easily understood. To him it is almost a paradise."

Mobile Tribune.

PUBLIC SPEAKING.—"Julius did you ever speak in public?" "In course." "What?" "In de perlice." "And what did you say, Julius?" "Not guilty." "Mr. Snow—what else could a gentleman say under the pwessha ob de circumstances?"

A pleasant young fellow about half seas over, passing through the Strand at a late hour, was accosted by a watchman, who began with all the insolence of office, to file a string of interrogatories